<u>IN THE CLAIMS</u>:

Please amend the claims as follows.

1. (Currently Amended) A method of archiving and retrieving digital media items, ~~based on~~ ~~episodic memory of predefined distinct groups of one or more people the method~~ comprising

receiving a user input identifying a group <u>of users</u> to which <u>an archiving</u> ~~the user~~ belongs;

receiving ~~user~~ archiving input <u>data</u>: identifying<u>:</u> a digital media item to be archived for the group, <u>the user's selection of</u> ~~selecting~~ zero or more group event types from a predetermined plurality of group event types ~~for~~ <u>specific to</u> the group, <u>the user's selection of</u> ~~selecting~~ zero or more persons in the group, and <u>the user's selection of</u> ~~selecting a~~ ~~time or~~ time period;

generating index information using the received user archiving input;

storing the index information in association with the identified digital media item;

repeating the reception of ~~user~~ archiving input <u>data</u>, the generation of the index information and the storing of the index information for a plurality of digital media items;

receiving a ~~user~~ retrieval input <u>data representing a selection of</u> ~~selecting or automatically~~ ~~selecting~~ <u>a default or</u> zero or more group event types from the predetermined plurality of group event types for the group, <u>a selection of a default or</u> zero or more persons in the group, and <u>a selection of a</u> ~~time or~~ time period; and

using the selections and the identified group to retrieve and output digital media items that match the selection.

2. (Currently Amended) A method according to Claim 1 wherein the ~~user~~ retrieval input <u>data</u> comprises a user input from ~~a~~ <u>new</u><u>another</u> ~~different~~ user identifying a group to which the <u>new</u><u>other</u> ~~different~~ user belongs and the digital media items are retrieved using the group identified for the <u>new</u><u>other</u> ~~different~~ user in the user retrieval input.

3. (Original) A method according to claim 1 including defining the distinct groups of people, and defining group event types that are appropriate for members of the groups to distinguish episodic events memorable to the group.

4. (Original) A method according to claim 1 including receiving said digital media item to be archived, and storing said digital media item in association with the index information.

5. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 including receiving a user archiving input data identifying a digital media item as being associated with a memorable high point in the mind of the user.

6. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 5 wherein the user retrieval input data includes an input selecting memorable high points.

7. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 wherein the index information is generated to includes an identification of a media type of the digital media item.

8. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 7 wherein the user retrieval input data includes an input identifying a media type, and the digital media items are retrieved and output based on the identified media type.

9. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 including receiving a user archiving input data identifying a plurality of digital media items and an input identifying the digital media items to be associated as perceived by the user, wherein the index information is generated to include the identified association.

10. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 9 wherein, when digital media items are retrieved and output as a result of the user retrieval input, any digital media items having the identified association in the index information are automatically identified for retrieval and output.

11. (Original) A method according to claim 10 wherein the automatically identified digital media items are automatically retrieved and output.

12. (Original) A method according to claim 10 including outputting a notification to a user that associated digital media items are available, and retrieving and outputting automatically identified digital media items in response to a user input.

13. (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 1 further comprising: including
 receiving a user request for automatic nostalgic retrieval,

automatically generating an initial set of said selections,

using the selections to retrieve and output digital media items,

automatically modifying one or more of the selections,

using the modified selections to retrieve and output digital media items and

repeating the modifying, and retrieval and output steps.

14. (Currently Amended) A user terminal for use in the archiving and retrieval of digital media items based on episodic memory of associated with predefined distinct groups of one or more people, the terminal comprising:

user interface means for allowing a user to generating e an archiving input data: identifying:

a group to which the user belongs, identifying

a digital media item to be archived for the group,

a user selection of selecting zero or more group event types from a predetermined plurality of group event types for specific to the group,

a user selection of selecting zero or more persons in the group, and

a user selection of selecting a time or time period;

transmission means for transmitting the archiving input to a processing device for generating index information using the archiving input and for storing the index information in association with the identified item;

wherein said user interface means further is adapted to allow a user to for generating e a retrieval input data: identifying:

a group to which a retrieving the user belongs,

a retrieving user's selection of selecting a default or zero or more group event types from the predetermined plurality of group event types for the group,

a retrieving user's selection of selecting a default or zero or more persons in the group,

a retrieving user's selection of selecting a time or time period and identifying if retrieval is to be automatic; and

said transmission means is adapted to transmit the retrieval input to the processing device to identify digital media items using the retrieval input;

the user terminal further including

receiving means for receiving any digital media items identified by the processing device; and

a display for displaying the received digital media items.

15. (Currently Amended) A method of operating a terminal for use in the archiving and retrieval of digital media items ~~based on episodic memory of~~ for predefined distinct groups of ~~one or more~~ people, the method comprising:

receiving from an archiving ~~allowing a~~ user ~~to generate an~~ archiving input data: identifying:

a group to which the user belongs, ~~identifying~~

a digital media item to be archived for the group,

a selection of ~~selecting~~ zero or more group event types from a predetermined plurality of group event types specific to ~~for~~ the group,

a selection of ~~selecting~~ zero or more persons in the group, and

a selection of ~~selecting a~~ ~~time or~~ time period;

transmitting the archiving input to a processing device for generating index information using the archiving input, and for storing the index information in association with the identified item;

receiving from ~~allowing~~ a retrieving user ~~to generate a~~ retrieval input data: identifying:

a group to which the user belongs,

a selection of default or ~~selecting~~ zero or more group event types from the predetermined plurality of group event types for the group, ~~selecting~~

a selection of default or zero or more persons in the group, ~~selecting~~ and

a selection of a ~~time or~~ time period, ~~and identifying if retrieval is to be automatic~~;

transmitting the retrieval input to the processing device to identify digital media items using the retrieval input;

receiving any digital media items identified by the processing device; and

displaying the received digital media items.

16. (Original) A carrier medium storing processor readable and implementable code for controlling a processor to carry out the method of any one of claims 1 to 13 or 15.

17. (Currently Amended) Apparatus for archiving and retrieving digital media items for based on episodic memory of predefined distinct groups of one or more people, the apparatus comprising:

receiving means for receiving a user archiving input data identifying a group to which the user belongs, and user the archiving input: data identifying:

a digital media item to be archived for the group,

a selection of selecting zero or more group event types from a predetermined plurality of group event types for specific to the group, selecting

a selection of zero or more persons in the group, and selecting

a selection of a time or time period;

generating means for generating index information using the received user archiving input;

storing means for storing the index information in association with the identified digital media item;

wherein said receiving means is adapted to receive a user retrieval input data identifying a manual or automatic selection of selecting or to automatically select: zero or more group event types from the predetermined plurality of group event types for the group, a selection of zero or more persons in the group, and a selection of a time or time period; and

the apparatus further includes retrieval means for using the selections and the identified group to retrieve and output digital media items that match the selections.

18. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said receiving means is adapted to receive the user retrieval input data from a different another user than from which the archiving input data is received, said retrieval input data identifying a group to which the other user belongs, identifying a group to which the different user belongs.

19. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 17 including means for defining the distinct groups of people, and for defining group event types that are appropriate for members of the groups to distinguish episodic events memorable to the group.

20. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said receiving means is adapted to receive said digital media items to be archived, and item storing means for storing said digital media item in association with the index information.

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21. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said receiving means is adapted to receive a—user—archiving input data identifying a digital media item as being associated with a memorable high point in the mind of the user.

22. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 21 wherein said receiving means is adapted to receive a—user—retrieval input data selecting memorable high points.

23. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said generating means is adapted to include an identification of a media type of the digital media item.

24. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 23 wherein said receiving means is adapted to receive a—user—retrieval input data identifying a media type, and said retrieval means is adapted to retrieve and output digital media items based on the identified media type.

25. (Currently Amended) Apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said receiving means is adapted to receive the—user—archiving input data identifying a plurality of digital media items to be sequenced as perceived by the user, and said generating means is adapted to generate the index information to include the identified sequences.

26. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 25 wherein said retrieval means is adapted to retrieve all digital media items identified to be sequenced when one or more digital media items are selected for retrieval.

27. (Original) Apparatus according to claim 17 wherein said receiving means receives a request for automatic nostalgic retrieval, said generating means is adapted to generate an initial set of selections and automatically modify one or more of the selections at a time in response to the request, said retrieval means is adapted to sequentially output digital media items retrieved using the generated and modified sets of selection.

28-57. (cancelled)

Please add the following new claims:

58. (New) A media archival method, comprising, under control of an operator who is a member of a group:
indent authenticating an operator as a member of a group of users,

identifying candidate identification values based upon the group with whom the operator is authenticated,

querying the operator for selection of identification data to be associated with a digital media item, the query identifying the candidate identification values and including valid selections of an event type and persons from the group and time,

generating index information from a response of the operator, and

storing the index information in association with the digital media item.

59. (New) The archival method of claim 58, wherein the candidate identification values for persons include names of group members.

60. (New) The archival method of claim 58, wherein the stored index information includes a flag that distinguishes high point items from other items, and the method further comprises setting the flag if the operator response includes an indication that the digital media item is a high point.

61. (New) The archival method of claim 58, wherein, if the operator response indicates that the digital media item is a member of a trail, the index information includes an identifier representing the media item's display position in a sequence of stored media items stored by the system.

62. (New) A multimedia retrieval method, comprising, under control of an operator who is a member of a group:

authenticating an operator as a member of a group of users,

identifying candidate identification values based upon the group with whom the operator is authenticated,

querying the operator for selection of identification data, the query identifying the candidate identification values and including valid selections of an event type and persons from the group and time,

generating index information from a response of the operator, and

retrieving stored media items corresponding to the index information.

63. (New) The retrieval method of claim 62, wherein the candidate identification values for persons include names of group members.

64.   (New) The retrieval method of claim 62, wherein the stored index information includes a flag that distinguishes high point items from other items, and the method further comprises searching for the flag among the stored index information if the operator response includes an indication that high point items are selected.

65.   (New) The retrieval method of claim 62, further comprising, if the operator response indicates that a trail is selected, presenting stored media items in a sequence as identified in the index information corresponding to the presented media items.